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**DEC 16 2004**

PATENT RESPONSE

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 09/828,477  
Filing Date : April 5, 2001  
Inventors : Dustin M. Davis and Jane R. Garrison  
Title : Method and System for Mitigating Distortive Effects in Biometric Samples  
in a Biometric Verification System  
Examiner : Aaron W. Carter  
Art Unit : 2625  
Attorney Docket : BAC-32569 (19620.0003)  
Customer No. : 022202

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a) and 1.10**

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

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- ☒ transmitted by facsimile to Fax No. 703-872-9306 addressed to Examiner Aaron W. Carter at the Patent and Trademark Office.

Date: 12-16-04Bernadette Jackson

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**RESPONSE**

Dear Sir:

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Amended Claims begin on:	page 6 of 15
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Conclusion begins on:	page 14 of 15
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PATENT RESPONSE

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

After careful review, Applicant hereby responds to a June 16, 2004 non-final Office Action regarding the above-referenced patent application. In view of this Response, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application.

Applicant has not added new matter with this Response, and Applicant intends the scope of the invention and claims to be the same before and after this Response. Indeed, Applicant only offers this Response to clarify the invention for the Examiner, and to assist the Examiner's understanding of the same. More specifically, Applicant has not intended this Response to effectuate a narrowing of the claims, foreclose techniques that are not reasonably foreseeable at this time, or effect the applicability and scope of the Doctrine of Equivalents.